

# TOWN OF GILA BEND

Minutes of the September 28, 2010 regular Council Meeting

## I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Call to order ***The meeting was called to order by Mayor Henry at 6:00pm***
- B. Pledge of Allegiance ***was led by Mayor Henry.***
- C. Invocation ***was given by Town Attorney McClure.***

## II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Ron Henry  
Vice-Mayor Fred Hull  
Council Member Fernando Fernandez  
Council Member Armida Gonzalez

Council Member Chuck Turner ***absent***  
Council Member James "Bud" Turner ***absent***  
Council Member Donny Young ***arrived at 6:10pm***

***Staff present: Town Manager Buss, Town Attorney McClure, Town Clerk Turner, Finance Director Young, Community Planner Fitzer, Records Clerk Eisenberger, Counter Services Smith***

## III. CONSENT AGENDA (all items subject to approval by a single motion; any Council Member may require any of these items to be voted on separately)

- A. Approval of September 14, 2010 Regular Council meeting minutes: The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action on the approval of the September 14, 2010 Regular Council meeting minutes. ***Discussion and Action (WHITE) Vice Mayor Hull made a motion to approve. Motion seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. Motion passed unanimously; 4-0***

## IV. BUSINESS - Discussion and possible action on the following items:

- A. Gatlin Site Update: The Mayor and Town Council shall receive an update on the Gatlin Site. ***Discussion Only Vice Mayor Hull presented a slide show of photos taken at the Gatlin Site Archaeological Park this month. He expressed concern over the farmer taking dirt from the east side of the road along the fence enclosing the site and commented that a survey needs to be done as this was still town property and he believed there is a dispute over the actual property line. He asked what amount of funds were available and were they dedicated funds? Other issues noted included pipe purchased for a water line not used due to change in course of waterline, replica platform mound unfinished, more stabilization needs done on the mounds, a ramada has fallen down, the site should be put back under the Town's care in the Public Works Department, there needs to be more Town involvement in the care of the site and there used to be a whole lot of entities involved in the site. He summarized by commenting that the site has not been taken care of since the Pierpoint's left after the big 'blow up' and that the site needs some TLC, maintenance, and more Town involvement. There was some discussion on the Historical Preservation Commissions (HPC) role and involvement. Historical Preservation Commissioner Eisenberger provided Council Members with photographs and written statement regarding HPC involvement. HPC Commissioner Eisenberger spoke about the HPC involvement so far and noted that the commission was not provided any assistance from the Pierpoint's who even refused to answer questions, that there are strict federal and state laws regarding archaeological sites and that weed removal and other maintenance issues cannot be resolved by just sending personnel in with tools. She noted that Pierpoint's did not work on the site during the heat. Commissioner Eisenberger noted that the first set of photos taken were from months prior to the Pierpoint's quitting and from the day they officially left and the second set showed improvements by the HPC. She noted that the HPC wrote and produced a brochure, has given tours to several groups and to tourists, is researching types and costs of signage, has been in contact with a couple of different archaeologists and has made some site***

*improvements including a temporary path so visitors can actually view the pit house replica exhibit and placement of a couple of picnic tables. She noted that the photos showed the ramada has been falling down for months prior to the Pierpoint's quitting, trail deterioration, dead plants in 'botanical garden' and general lack of maintenance all were issues prior to 'the blow up'. She commented that trail deterioration was caused by failure of previous caretakers to maintain even though they had the materials to do so, piles of trash not removed, termites in posts because they were placed untreated, erosion of mounds became worse after removal of stabilizing vegetation, and overall maintenance had not been done. Discussion on the many entities previously involved withdrew due to the Pierpoint's actions. It was noted that the site has been under the Town's Parks & Recreation department for a couple of years. General discussion on the importance of getting more involvement in the site and issues such as the waterlines, fire hydrants, roadwork and others, have been priorities.*

- B. Resolution 10-09 (Call of Election): A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Gila Bend, Arizona, designating the Election date and purpose of Election; designating the deadline for voter registration; and designating the place and last date for candidates to file nominating papers. **Discussion and Action (BLUE) Town Clerk Turner noted that this is the standard Call of Election and that there are four (4) Council seats up for reelection. Town Manager Buss commented that on this election Gila Bend residents can choose whether or not they want Home Rule. Town Manager Buss provided a summary of Home Rule as who the decision-makers are for local government spending. Voting for Home Rule gives the locals control over Town expenditures and voting no for Home Rule would give the State of Arizona control over the expenditures with a maximum budget of approximately \$683,000/fiscal year. He noted that \$683,000 is one-half of what we currently have under contract this year. He stated that if any residents have questions they may come to the Town office and staff will answer any questions and provide them with facts but will not give personal or professional opinions on the issue. He noted that the issue is voted on every four (4) years. Vice Mayor Hull moved to approve. Motion seconded by Councilmember Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously; 5-0.**
- C. Ordinance 10-10 (Historical Preservation Commission): An Ordinance of the Common Council of the Town of Gila, Arizona, hereby amending Title 2 of the Town of Gila Bend Municipal Code by amending Section 2.40.030(A) to change the number of Historical Preservation Commission Members from seven (7) to five (5). **Discussion and Action (YELLOW) Vice Mayor moved to approve. Seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. HPC Commissioner Eisenberger commented that there are seven commissioners currently appointed but two have moved and one has passed away making it difficult to have a quorum and by reducing the number of commissioners to five it will facilitate matters. Vice Mayor Hull noted that consultants can be obtained and that the Town needs to hire an archaeological team. Commissioner Eisenberger noted that she has met with and given tours to a few archaeological firms with good results and input. Motion passed unanimously; 5-0**
- D. Historical Preservation Commission (HPC) Recruitment: The Mayor and Town Council shall discuss and possibly take action to open recruitment for 60 days, taking applications for HPC Members and set a date to take action on applications. **Discussion and Action. Vice Mayor Hull moved to approve. Motion seconded by Councilmember Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously; 5-0.**
- E. Consent to Apply for Program: The Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Gila Bend shall discuss and possibly take direct staff to apply for the ADOT Planning Assistance for Rural Communities (PARA) Program. **Discussion and Action (PINK) Community Planning Director Fitzer commented that this is a good program that allows the Town to apply for a transportation study which is needed since the Town is currently working off of a 2007 study. Discussion on establishing study for future development, helpful with Maricopa County for comments on their developments and there is no local match. Community Planning Director Fitzer noted that this would be free of cost if awarded. Motion to approve made by Vice Mayor Hull. Seconded by Councilmember Fernandez. Motion passed unanimously; 5-0.**

- V. MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT ON CURRENT EVENTS  
(This is the time Council Member's may present a brief summary on current events. The Council may not propose, discuss, deliberate or take any legal action on the information presented)  
**Councilmember Fernandez: no report**  
**Councilmember Gonzalez reported that she has heard great positive input from residents about the street work and landscaping done on Pima. She also reported that the airport is looking very good with only the lettering on the sign being a little hard to see.**  
**Vice Mayor Hull reported that the street with traffic counters was cut. Community Planner Fitzer commented that counters were accidentally cut but are being replaced. Vice Mayor Hull commented that he went to a Social Services Committee meeting but there was not a quorum present and that there will be a presentation on Roberts Rules of Orders at the meeting next month. He invited other Council Members and Staff to attend next meeting with him if they are interested.**  
**Councilmember Young: no report**  
**Town Clerk Turner reported that the Candidate Packets will be ready by October 12<sup>th</sup> for interested persons and that the Town has received the title for the Maxi-Lift Van.**  
**Community Planner Fitzer reported that the Pima Street improvements should be done by Friday (October 1<sup>st</sup>); he met with Maricopa County regarding the study on rainfall and that a hydrology study is next; will be meeting with neighboring communities regarding renewable energy development and that the Butterfield Line plans are half finished and will be going over them with Richard Wallace.**  
**Finance Director Young reported that she is working on the numbers on bulk water comparison, working with Kevin Larson on the RO wells, working with Mark Alexander with Buckeye Fire and that the CON is done.**
- VI. TOWN MANAGER REPORT  
**Town Manager Buss thanked HPC Commissioner Cyndi Eisenberger for all of the hard work she has given to the HPC, for all of the volunteer work she does for the Town of Gila Bend and hard work and passion for the community. He reported on the MCSO meeting regarding the Gila Bend Jail facility went very well with all parties working together, Lt. Anglin with MCSO will be attending the staff meeting tomorrow, and that he met with the City of Tucson solar expert who gave the Town information on how to provide government buildings with solar energy without capital expense and Town is sharing our information with him. Town Manager Buss exhibited the enlarged laminated poster of the proposed new Civic Center and noted that one will be placed at the CAP office and one at the Town office for resident and staff input and noted the need for ideas and suggestions from residents and staff. He will be meeting with the First Things First people on Thursday (September 30<sup>th</sup>), attended the GPEC and Directors meeting with some disbelief shown on the Solar Field Overlay Zone process, and he will be continuing to work on economic development, safety issues, and the proposed civic center. He reported that he would like to continue the moving forward momentum with ongoing improvements put on future agendas including more Pima Street improvements and plans to finish with these improvements and then put some new items on the October 12, 2010 agenda for Council direction.**
- VII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC (*The procedures to follow if you address the Council are: Council requests that you express your ideas in three minutes or less and refrain from any personal attacks or derogatory statements about any individual . The Mayor will limit discussion whenever he deems such an action appropriate to the proper conduct of the meeting. At the conclusion of an open call to the public, individual members of the Council may respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the Council, may ask Staff to review a matter, or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the Council shall not discuss or take legal action on any matters during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.*) **Art Dishman, resident, complimented Town staff for the work on waterlines and fire hydrants and requested that all of the fire hydrants be exercised regularly as it is good for the hydrants and a water system that is not looped. He asked whether or not the Fire Department will now be doing that since the Fire Chief is now a paid employee. He commented that he believes the new airport sign is great but that the lettering is a little hard to see and he thanked Community Planner Fitzer for all of the help**

**he has given.**

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Town Council may go into executive session for purpose of obtaining legal advice for any of the above agenda items pursuant to A.R.S.38-431.03(A)(3). **No Executive Session called.**

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**Vice Mayor Hull moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilmember Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously; 5-0. Time of adjournment: 6:56pm.**

---

Ron Henry, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Beverly Turner, CMC  
Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the regular meeting held September 28, 2010, and the meeting was duly called and posted and that a quorum was present.

---

Beverly Turner, CMC  
Town Clerk